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April 5, 2005 LB 709

determine what those parameters would be, how realistic it is to try to get that information in a timely manner. And then I've also had a discussion with some of the individuals on the actual health-care provider side. Sometimes there's information that's gathered but that information is not generally kept. And so if there is that nexus or if there's that lack of nexus, as far as that information, there probably needs to be a review of how we would accomplish that information. Ultimately, I think what Senator Synowiecki is asking for is something that's reasonable. The question or I guess the thing that I have noticed is is that it's effective...it'll be a report that will be submitted to us February 1 of next year, according to the amendment, because obviously February 1 of this year has passed. So we would have time to do it, but whether or not it's appropriate to be in a bill that is terminating on January 1 of 2006 or not obviously up for our discussion or our consideration. know that Senator Synowiecki has been having further discussions and I look forward to his response. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Erdman. Further discussion? Senator Synowiecki, there are no further lights on. You're recognized to close.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. I appreciate the comments and I...if you vote to advance the amendment and AM1057, you're voting to advance this kind of concept. I will...what I will agree to the members of this legislative body is that I will continue to work with the department, with the providers, and if we need any additional technical improvements to this concept, I will bring them forward in cooperation and in collaboration with Senator Erdman, the underlying bill's sponsor. That's what I'll do. What you are voting here is to undertake a broader-based approach to the underlying premises of LB 709 and for it to have an evaluative component of the employers in this state, and that to receive information on where we're at...I mean, we don't...we have no idea where we're at, in terms of those employers in our state; namely, some of our largest employers, to determine whether or not they are leaving it up to their corporate...being good corporate citizens in providing necessary healthcare to their employees and their families and their children. And obviously, if we have